

BARRE DAILY TIMES

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The oyst-R months begin to-morrow.
Dutch neutrality needs a shock absorber.

The autumn rains are welcomed by Vermont's forest rangers.

With pork at \$19 on the hoof in Chicago and the price still soaring, there is room for doubt as to whether it really was a cow that jumped over the moon.

First to die in Gen. Pershing's expeditionary force: Lieut. Frederick Whalstrom. Even though death resulted from a motorcycle accident, it may be said that "he died amid the thunders of great war."

The Times' Friday-before-Labor-day advice to the farmers makes its 20th annual appearance: Do not leave your mowing machine to rust in the shade of the old apple tree. The warning is old, but the need for it is ever present and besides, someone may set it to music before another year rolls by.

There will be new reasons for admiring Harry Lauder, the Scotch comedian, when he returns to America in the autumn. Only a year ago his only son was killed in action and while the great sorrow has tempered the funmaker's humorous bump, he retains his old-time faculty for entertaining, as was evidenced when he sang his comic skits in the trenches not long ago.

Every worker of stone should be interested in the Georgia project for the creation of a soldiers' memorial on the granite face of Stone Mountain. An age-old craft, that of the stonecutter, is to make possible the completion of this gigantic project. Some of the most skillful carvers in the nation are to be mobilized under the direction of Gutzon Borglum and several years will elapse before this sheer mountain wall is relieved by military figures designed to serve as an enduring monument to the lost cause.

Because it must hew to the line, the state board of health has been forced to use its influence in the abandonment of all plans for state and county fairs this year. The season for these countryside gatherings is almost at hand and perhaps we shall discover presently just how much the fair has come to mean in our scheme of neighborliness. The same rule which put the Chautauqua companies out of the running for a season is applied to country fairs of high and low estate. Washington and Tunbridge must suffer eclipse along with White River Junction, Rutland, Brattleboro and Middlebury, to name a few of the larger ones. Thousands will feel a sense of something missing when September days come and go without the big reunion on the fairground, but it is better to forego the pleasure of these reunions than to suffer the dreaded malady, poliomyelitis, to spread. It is better to be safe than sorry.

There is plenty of fun ahead for the amateur experimenter right here in Vermont. He has only to take a leaf from the British government, which is directing the attention of the people to such wild edibles as the frog, nettles and whortle-berries. Fungus diggers are not a rarity on the hills about Barre and on a recent Sunday a traveler noticed no fewer than 10 persons assiduously delving for the succulent mushroom. Hundreds testify to its potency as a health-giving article of diet, and it is said that here in Vermont the possibility of confusing the edible variety with the poisonous kind is very remote. Probably nettles and hedgehogs will not be greatly disturbed until 1918 and even then the food supply will have to shrink perceptibly before the woods and fields are invaded for that purpose. Most people will have to learn to identify whortle-berries before their hunger is appeased from that source. It is assumed that a very fair percentage of our population has eaten frogs' legs at one time or another.



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WILL MEET IN
ROCHESTER, N. Y.,
NEXT YEAR

(Continued from first page)

Designs to the Cemetery" was the topic of a lecture by Prof. G. F. Burns of the department of botany at the state university, who illustrated his remarks with stereopticon views. James Currie of Forest Home cemetery, Milwaukee, Wis., gave an unusually illuminating paper on "The Crematory as an Adjunct to the Modern Cemetery." George M. Zapf of Baltimore, Md., a special delegate from the National Retail Monument Dealers' association, who was to have delivered a paper on "Relation of the Cemetery Superintendent to the Retail Monument Dealer," was not present.

Supt. Puckett's strong plea for uniformity in cemetery laws led to a long discussion, which culminated in the appointment of a committee to inquire into the advisability of drafting proposed laws. Mr. Puckett's remarks had to do with the delicate feelings of jurists regarding the bodies of the dead and the sometimes unavoidable disturbance thereof. He expressed a belief that the public is disposed to place a good deal of confidence in the ability of cemetery administrators to take care of remains entrusted to their disposition and quoted extensively from legal sources. The legal rights of the family are paramount, and everywhere cemetery superintendents are wholly desirous of living up to the letter of the law. Statutes clearly indicating whether or not a debt could be secured by a mortgage on a cemetery lot and prescribing the rights of parties in such a lot pending the expiration of the time allowed for redemption would remove many uncertainties, in the opinion of the speaker. The American Bar association, he said, has made considerable progress in an effort to have uniform laws passed in the various states, but much remains to be done in the matter of cemetery legislation.

In closing the speaker urged the appointment of a committee to be charged with the duty of procuring the aid of the bar associations in having certain laws enacted. It would mean much if every member could tell without consulting his attorney exactly what are the rights of the owner of a commercial cemetery and of its patrons under practically any set of circumstances and regardless of where such cemetery is located.

Prof. Perkins' carefully prepared study on granite and the granite industry of Vermont was one of the distinctive contributions to the program. Vermont is far in the lead of every other state in the matter of granite production. It was originally used in Vermont for walls and foundations, and so far as the records show the State House at Montpelier was the first large building to be constructed of Vermont granite. The stone was drawn from the old Wheaton quarry and it is as fresh and sound as at first, after exposure to Vermont weather for 80 years.

The speaker discussed in detail the phases of Barre's mammoth industry and said: "Barre claims to be the largest

est granite center in the world, and the claim is certainly well founded and, I think, entirely true." Continuing, he described the geologic formation of granite, asserting that with the exception of the Windsor green, all Vermont granites are of the typical sort. The black specks in the Barre granites are biotite mica and, obviously, the more of these the darker the stone. Knots, as they are known, are in reality little scales of mica. In Vermont, unlike New Hampshire, no true granite is found in the Green mountains, but only in the lesser mountains or foot hills. Geographically all Vermont granites are east of the Green mountain range, while all of the marble beds and most of the slate are west of the mountains. After describing Barre as the principal center of the deposits, Prof. Perkins mentioned the quarries in Calais, Woodbury, Hardwick, Ryegate, Bethel, Groton, Derby, Windsor and Dummerston. In 1880 Vermont sold granite to the amount of \$60,000, and of late years the value has approximated \$6,000,000. During the period of development Barre has increased from a village of some 2,000 to a city of 11,000. At the close Prof. Perkins directed the attention of his hearers to bulletin No. 404, U. S. geological survey, in which T. Nelson Dale gives the results of a very thorough examination of all the granite deposits in the state.

"Application of Landscape Designs to the Cemetery," the subject of Prof. Burns' lecture, was one of particular interest to the superintendents, and as the professor's remarks were admirably supplemented by colored views, his period was especially enjoyed. He explained at some length the beginnings made by landscape gardeners in America and stressed the importance attached to this work by leading cemetery supervisors and others interested in the upkeep of public burial grounds. His stereopticon views depicted a number of fine landscape arrangements, some of them laid in Vermont with a Green mountain background. The pictures also showed in sharp contrast sites in their natural state and after scientific methods of arrangement had been applied. Prof. Burns' address was replete with helpful suggestions for the superintendent who had just begun to realize on the opportunities for development before him. The speaker made it plain that the problem of the cemetery supervisor where landscape gardening is necessary runs parallel to that of the man who supervises the care of public parks, playgrounds, etc. He paid tribute to the forward-looking superintendents of America who are doing much to spread the gospel of aesthetic landscape gardening.

Remarks by Supt. Currie in his paper on cremation were provocative of much good-natured debate, with the result that the matter was dismissed when it became evident that the convention was divided on the question. Mr. Currie, at the outset, made it known that he favored cremation and supported his views by relating his own experiences as head of a cemetery where cremation is constantly practiced. For the reason

that the best usage seems to insist that the ashes of the deceased be buried, instead of scattered to the four winds or carried home, Supt. Currie asserted that cremation is not inimicable, but in reality conducive to the prosperity of the cemetery. Many years, no doubt, will pass before cremation is made mandatory by law or becomes universal, but the speaker expressed the belief that it will surely progress. Reason, common sense, scientific research and knowledge will not be opposed to this reform in the future. The superintendent declared that crematories for the larger cities are practical and self-supporting, even profitable.

He discussed the system from a sanitary standpoint and found nothing but good in it. Turning to methods, he said there were two distinct groups of crematories, i. e., those in which the retort is heated externally, coal or coke being the fuel used, and the container that is heated internally by the gases of coal, coke or wood generated in a separate fire or furnace and conducted to the retort. Electricity has been tried, but the system is still in the experimental stage and not yet satisfactory. The internally heated type is used by a majority of crematories.

At the close the speaker said: "Let us encourage and support cremation by acknowledging its principles and providing crematories for its practice, but let us admonish cremationists to pay due regard to the ashes, giving them respectful burial, preferably in the grave rather than in structures of perishable material, which, however well constructed, must inevitably, in due course of time, go to ruin to be disposed of with their contents in the manner future generations may consider proper or find convenient, a contingency however remote not agreeable to contemplate."

EVENING SESSION.

Papers on Epitaphs, Tree Pests and Cemetery Fences Read.

The session last evening was somewhat shortened at the end to allow the superintendents to attend the "round-up" in Howland hall, where Carroll's orchestra played for dancing. The program consisted of a paper on "Epitaphs" by Atty. S. Hollister Jackson of Barre, a paper on "Some Shade Tree Pests," by Harold L. Bailey of Bradford, head of the state insect suppression department; and an illustrated lecture, entitled "Concrete Fences as Adapted to the Cemetery," by John F. Peterson of Mount Auburn cemetery, Cambridge, Mass. Owing to the lateness of the hour the paper on "Pricing of Cemetery Lots," by W. N. Rudd of Greenwald cemetery, Chicago, Ill., was deferred until this forenoon.

Attorney Jackson's interesting discussion of epitaphs was in the nature of a plea for the retention of sentiment along with the development of art in the modern cemetery. An epitaph is a link between life, death and the great hereafter and it speaks from the "garden of sleep" its message of character, faith, hope and

love, said the speaker. It lays stress upon the value of a good character and encourages emulation; it is a token of the abiding faith of our fathers, the sacrificial love of our mothers; and withal bids us hope at a time and in a place where hope, too, seems dead.

At times the speaker interlarded his remarks with apt quotations from the memorials erected to the deceased of high and low estate. Some of them humorous, acting as safety-valves to sombre surroundings, and other seriously reflecting the good deeds of the dead. Epitaphs are not out of style and in referring to more fashionable, modern cemeteries, the speaker spoke of the chill and coldness about the magnificent monuments which are inscribed with names only. In strong contrast one visits some of the older cemeteries to find small, often inartistic stones, roughly hewn, poorly set and with the names all but obliterated. And yet the inscription of an epitaph has not faded and one finds therein something that was missed in the more modern part of the burial ground. There is sentiment, love, faith and hope. There is the resting place of real, red-blooded people who not only followed the blessed rule of speaking no ill of the dead, but found time to write well of them upon their monuments.

At the close Mr. Jackson said: "Epitaphs out of style! Then let us bring them back into style. Let us put a little sentiment into and upon our monuments. Let us add to the fashionable dress of our modern graves some of the homely virtues of the epitaph. Let us write upon the grand memorial a simple sentence, so that art may not banish sentiment from the land of the dead."

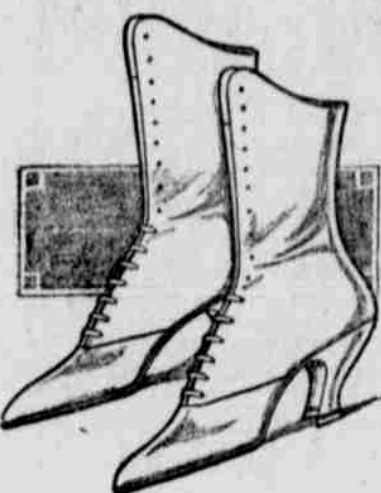
Parasitic insects got the scourging they deserve in Mr. Bailey's timely paper, and he found in a group of men who are lending their best efforts to the beautifying of the cemeteries ready listeners from the beginning to the end of his remarks. First aid treatments were carefully explained and at the outset he referred his audience to a number of books where information concerning the eradication of pests may be obtained. There are three groups of destructive insects, those which eat the leaves by chewing, those which suck the juice from foliage or bark, and those which work within the bark or tree by boring. Three general methods of treatment are required. Gypsy and brown-tail moths are in the first division, as are the elm leaf beetle, the canker worm, the forest tent caterpillars and several species of tussock moths. Arsenate of lead and other arsenical poisons are used advantageously in spraying. The sucking variety, in the second class, include preeminently scale insects and aphids. For these the treatment is spraying.

The control of boring insects, the third group, involves a more general set of principles, for when the work of the borer becomes evident there is generally no cure for the immediate part of the tree in which it is located, and the insect death is of primary importance only in preventing reproduction. Blister rust was described by the speaker

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er and as a measure of precaution he urged that all currant and gooseberry bushes be kept out of the cemeteries if five-needed pines have been set out.

Personal experiences were given in an excellent illustrated lecture by Supt. Peterson, who gave the association the benefit of his observations while erecting a cement fence around Mount Auburn cemetery in Cambridge in 1916 and building the reinforcement in sections where the lay of the land made it imperative involved the expenditure of \$14.3 per foot. Labor represented nearly 37 per cent. of the cost, material 38 per cent., and reinforcement more than 20 per cent., with four per cent. reserved for trucks and teams. In summing up, the speaker said: "The cost basis was figured on last year's work, but will be a very fair average, from the fact that although steel and labor have advanced, our previous experience counted in pushing the job along. Five years from now I hope to see the wall covered with English ivy, ampelopsis, wistaria, rambler roses, here and there a flowering crabapple tree or Japanese cherry, flowering shrubs, low and high, and occasionally a good-sized specimen tree to break the skyline. I venture to predict that we shall forget the concrete is there and that part of the cemetery wall which may be visible I believe to be of such color that it will mingle with the whole, and the idea of a fence will be altogether lost in the landscape."

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